

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 04967 191228Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 HA-05 /092 W
-----039128 200605Z /13

R 181100Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7253
INFO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 4967

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, CENTO, PK
SUBJECT: DISCUSSION OF BHUTTO'S FATE

REF: TEHRAN 4546

1. WE HAD HEARD RUMORS HERE THAT VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES, INCLUDING TURKEY AND LIBYA, HAD OFFERED TO GIVE ASYLUM TO BHUTTO, BUT WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE THAT PAK GOVERNMENT HAD EVER SOLICITED OR BEEN RECEPTIVE TO SUCH PROPOSALS. THUS, WE ARE SURPRISED AT REPORTED REMARKS OF PAK AMB IN IRAN A FEW WEEKS AGO (REFTEL).
2. ASIDE FROM LEGAL ISSUES INVOLVED, IT IS HARD TO IMAGINE THAT ANY PAK GOVERNMENT WOULD AGREE TO LET ANY OTHER COUNTRY KEEP CUSTODY OF BHUTTO. NO MATTER WHAT ASSURANCES ARE GIVEN BY THE CUSTODIAN, THE PAKS WOULD HAVE TO WONDER WHETHER IN DUE COURSE BHUTTO MIGHT ESCAPE OR MIGHT BE DELIBERATELY TURNED LOOSE, AND PERHAPS SURFACE LEADING A DISSIDENT MOVEMENT FROM KABUL, TASHKENT, OR ELSEWHERE.

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3. WE HAVE NO INDICATION OF CHANGE IN THE GOP'S VIEWS ON BHUTTO'S FATE BEYOND WHAT WE HAVE ALREADY REPORTED.
HUMMEL

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Message Attributes

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